

SELECTION OF TUNNEL METHODS

By: Dr. Gary S. Brierley

Successful Tunnel "Design"

Produce a satisfactory finished facility for no more money and in no more time than is required for the <u>existing ground conditions</u>.



Tunnels are Different than Above-Ground Structures

- Entirely within the ground.
- The ground cannot be specified.
- The ground can be changed.
- Serial Construction Schedule.



Tunnels are Different than Above-Ground Structures

- Work from inside/out.
- The ground requires temporary support.
- Lots of third party impacts.
- Land not owned by project.



Building a Tunnel

- Excavate the ground
- <u>Control</u> the ground during the process of excavation.
- Support the ground as the tunnel is advanced.
- ✓ Install the final lining.



Evaluating Tunneling Issues





Risk Management

The Geotech The Designer The Contractor ✓ The Owner Third Parties Insurers, etc.





Phoenix Casa Grande Highway































Coldwater Sanitary Relief Project









Coldwater WWTP LINDBERG Drainage **Pattern Coldwater** Lambert St. **Creek and** Louis **Existing Trunk** International Sewer Airport Alignment



Geotechnical Investigation

Tunnel Alignments

- Public ROW Roadways
- Creek / Easement
 Parallel Existing Trunk
 Sewer
- **Test Hole Locations**
 - 15 Total Test Holes
 - Spatial Variation
 - Representative Mix
 - Based on Alignments





South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant

Presented By:

Kevin Koeller, P.E.

Gary Brierley, P.E. Tunneling Through Backfill and Lift Station Walls Without Disturbing Plant Operations





Project Background

- SARWWTP receives flow from the south half of Austin (SAR Service Area)
- PER confirmed flow from service area
- Flow from two separate service areas is delivered to the site via two tunnels
- Tunnels terminate in two separate lift stations approximately 90 feet deep
- No definition of division of flow





Tunnel Route

- Avoid Damage to Operating Facilities
- Minimize Interruptions of Plant Operations
- Tunnel Must be Constructible





Tunnels Between Access Shafts No. 2

- Access Shaft 1 to
 Access Shaft 2 768 ft
- Decker Model 70 TBM –
 5.75 ft dia
- ✓ Hobas Pipe 63 in.
- Downhill 0.2%
- Taylor Shale





Backfill of Existing Lift Stations

- Probing Operations
- Compaction Grouting







Saguaro Ranch Tunnel





Portal Cut





Horizontal Boring





Pilot Tunnel





Shotcrete



Top Heading

Final Tunnel

Grand & Bates Sewer Relief Tunnel

Tunnel Alignment

Grand & Bates / Plan View

Subsurface Conditions

Verburden Soil

25 to 75 ft. fill/loess/alluvial soils Rubble fill (rip rap) at Outfall Structure

Highly Weathered Limestone

Low quality fractured zones with shale seams Pinnacled surface/karst potential $k = 2.5 \times 10-3 \text{ cm/sec}$

✓ Unweathered St. Louis Limestone

White-light Gray, thin-massive bedding Chert lenses and nodules k = 1.5 x 10-5 cm/sec

VE Proposed Alternative Alignment

Simplified Alignment Reduces Construction Time, Effort, and Cost

Increased Tunnel Diameter

132-in Precast Concrete Liner Pipe increases storage volume by over 40%

Limited Use of Drill & Blast

Drill-Blast Starter Tunnel Used to Permit Assembly of TBM

Simplified Ground Support

8 x 11.5 in. Channel Crown Sets at Railroad & Highway Crossings

5.5 ft. #8 Resin Grouted Rock dowels and WWF Provide Primary Crown Support

Montreal

New Crystal Springs Bypass (Polhemus) Tunnel

Design Challenges

By: Dr. Gary S. Brierley City And County Of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission San Francisco Water Department

SFPUC Water Supply Improvement Program

Need for the Project

Project Location

North Shaft

Landslide area New Tunnel

South Shaft Area

Ground Conditions

Ground Conditions

Sandstone

Mélange Matrix

Tunnel Boring Machine

Temporary Tunnel Lining

Crossing San Mateo Creek

A Final Recommendation: THINK! THINK! THINK!